



FEDERAL HIGHWAY
ADMINISTRATION
Western Federal
Lands Highway
Division

CONSTRUCTION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 05
October 13, 2006



CAPE MEARES
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE

CAPE MEARES LIGHTHOUSE PARKING AREA

Project OR RRP CAME 900(1)

This week has gone well and moves ahead of schedule all in hopes of beating the winter rains. As we all know winter rains although not entirely welcome sustains what we all enjoy, the beauty of lush green vegetation and the magnificent forests surrounding the region. However for construction that winter rain usually means an end to construction that deals with dirt and or asphalt paving. For Cape Meares parking area the contractor has all the dirt work completed and is in hopes of paving next week. Paving has a critical weather related element that of bonding the new asphalt to the old. To achieve a bond an asphalt product defined as Tack is used and being an emulsion or water based product needs a dry surface when applied and must “break” before a good adhesive is achieved. The word “break” defines the process where the micro water droplets leave the oil and come to the surface to evaporate. You likely have seen this process in salad dressings; the oil droplets come together as does the water leaving two layers.

Paving the parking lot is more complicated for small projects as its difficult to get the paving companies interested in 400-ton projects. Typically the paving companies are very busy paving out large projects or finishing up their own commitments and therefore have very little resources available for projects such as Cape Meares. However the contractor is pulling together the paving from a variety of sources in order to pave next week. Road and Driveways in Newport and Lincoln City will provide the asphalt, Kodiak /Benge from the Portland area will lay the asphalt and at press time the contractor was still working on locating trucking to haul the asphalt. The notices are out for next week, the park will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Monday will primarily involve preparation work, Tuesday they expect to pave the first lift of asphalt over the gravel areas and Wednesday the parking area will be paved in its entirety. So no rain dances please!

Please pass on the information that Cape Meares Lighthouse access and parking to all but construction personnel will be closed starting Monday morning October 16th and will not reopen until Thursday morning October 19th.

If you have any commits or concerns related to the construction please forward these to the listed Email address or call 360-907-0685.

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TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL, SEND YOUR REQUEST TO charles.mikkola@fhwa.dot.gov
